

Appl. No. 09/597,196
Amendment and/or Response
Reply to Office action of 20 November 2003

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Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) An appliance, comprising:

a controller and a receiver connected thereto and effective to receive an ID device identifier;

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a network interface connectable to a relay server corresponding to the said ID device identifier;

the said controller being programmed to:

transmit data responsive to the said identifier to the said relay server, and

receive a profile address in response from the said relay server;

the said controller being further programmed to access profile data on the said profile server.

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6. (Currently amended) A method of controlling the operation of an appliance, comprising the steps of:

delivering receiving, at an appliance, first access data to an appliance, from a first remote device, the said access data providing network access to first configuration data;

receiving at the said appliance at least a portion of the said first configuration data via the said network;

configuring the said appliance responsively to the said first configuration data;

delivering receiving, at the appliance, second access data to the said appliance from a second remote device, the said second access data providing network access to second configuration data;

receiving at the said appliance at least a portion of the said second configuration data;

reconfiguring the said appliance responsively to the said second configuration data.

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7. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 6, wherein said first and second steps of delivering each includes delivering data from
each of the first remote device and the second remote device correspond to a portable device permanently storing said first and second access data, respectively.

8. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 7, wherein: said first receiving step receiving at least the portion of the first configuration data includes
receiving first relay data responsive to a network server identified in the said first access data,

receiving profile data made accessible via the said network by the said first relay data; and said second receiving step

receiving at least the portion of the second configuration data includes

receiving second relay data responsive to a network server identified in the said second access data, and

receiving profile data made accessible via the said network by the said second relay data.

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9. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 6, wherein: said first receiving step receiving at least the portion of the first configuration data includes receiving first relay data responsive to a network server identified in the said first access data,
receiving profile data made accessible via the said network by the said first relay data; and said second receiving step receiving at least the portion of the second configuration data includes receiving second relay data responsive to a network server identified in the said second access data, and receiving profile data made accessible via the said network by the said second relay data.

10. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 6, wherein:
~~said first and second steps of delivering include delivering data from a portable device permanently storing the said first and second access data, respectively; said device is each of the first and second remote devices corresponds to a radio frequency identification device.~~

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 11, wherein said steps of delivering the first and second access data includes co-locating a the radio frequency identification device with the said appliance.

13. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 6, wherein said first step of receiving at least the portion of the first configuration data includes receiving a portion of profile data including data relating to the said appliance and data relating to another type of appliance.

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14. (New) A method of controlling an appliance, comprising:
receiving an address of a relay server from a remote device,
transmitting a first request to the relay server,
receiving an address of a profile server from the relay server,
transmitting a second request to the profile server,
receiving a profile from the profile server, and
controlling the appliance in dependence upon the profile.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein
the remote device is a radio-frequency identification device.

16. (New) The method of claim 14, further including
receiving an address of another relay server from another remote device,
transmitting a third request to the other relay server,
receiving an address of another profile server from the other relay server,
transmitting a fourth request to the other profile server,
receiving another profile from the other profile server, and
controlling the appliance in dependence upon the other profile.